

I claim:

- 1        1. A pointing device control method for mapping a pointing device to a plurality of  
2 displays, comprising:
  - 3        mapping the pointing device to a first one of the displays;
  - 4        detecting a position indicated by the pointing device;
  - 5        determining if the position indicated by the pointing device is a position that corresponds  
6 to another one of the displays; and
  - 7        remapping the pointing device to the other one of the displays.
- 1        2. The pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein the position corresponding to  
2 the other display is near an edge.
- 1        3. The pointing device control method of claim 2, wherein the edge is an edge of a  
2 graphics tablet.
- 1        4. The pointing device control method of claim 2, wherein the edge is an edge of an  
2 active display.
- 1        5. The pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein the pointing device is an  
2 absolute pointing device.
- 1        6. The pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein the pointing device includes a  
2 graphics tablet.
- 1        7. The pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein the pointing device includes a  
2 stylus.
- 1        8. The pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein remapping the pointing  
2 device includes changing which of the plurality of displays is controlled by the pointing device.

1        9. The pointing device control method of claim 1, and further including a preliminary  
2 step of defining the width of a proximity zone near an edge to establish the position  
3 corresponding to the other monitor.

1        10. The pointing device control method of claim 1, and further including a preliminary  
2 step of identifying and storing the relative positions each of the plurality of displays.

1        11. The pointing device control method of claim 1, and further including:  
2            a preliminary step of recording the existence or nonexistence of a display on the left  
3            of each of the plurality of displays; and  
4            a preliminary step of recording the existence or nonexistence of a display on the right  
5            of each of the plurality of displays.

1        12. The pointing device control method of claim 1, and further including determining  
2 how long the pointing device has indicated the position corresponding to the other one of the  
3 displays.

1        13. The pointing device control method of claim 1, and further including:  
2            a preliminary step of setting an elapsed time which the pointing device must remain  
3 indicating a position near an edge before the pointing device is remapped.

1        14. The pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining if the  
2 position indicated by the pointing device is a position that corresponds to another one of the  
3 displays includes:

4            determining which of the plurality of displays is an active display;  
5            determining whether the pointing device is indicating a position near a specific edge;  
6            and  
7            determining if there is a display in a direction indicated by the specific edge.

1        15. The pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein:  
2 the position indicated by the pointing device is a left edge.

1        16. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2 electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 1.

1        17. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2 electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 2.

1        18. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2 electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 3.

1        19. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2 electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 4.

1        20. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2 electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 5.

1        21. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2 electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 6.

1        22. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2 electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 7.

1        23. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2 electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 8.

1        24. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2 electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 9.

1        25. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2 electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 10.

1        26. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2    electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 11.

1        27. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2    electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 12.

1        28. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2    electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 13.

1        29. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2    electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 14.

1        30. An electronically readable media having code embodied therein for causing an  
2    electronic device to facilitate the steps of the method of Claim 15.

1        31. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure comprising:  
2            a position field containing data representing a position for triggering a process for  
3            remapping a pointing device to another display; and  
4            a position field containing data representing the position of the pointing device.

1        32. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the position field contains data  
2    representing the width of an area near an edge.

1        33. The computer-readable medium of claim 32, wherein:  
2            the pointing device includes a graphics tablet and a stylus; and  
3            the edge is an edge of the graphics tablet.

1        34. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, and further including a preset time field  
2    containing data representing an activation time period.

1       35. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, and further including an elapsed time  
2 field containing data representing an elapsed time.

1       36. The computer-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the elapsed time is a time  
2 which a pointing device has remained in a designated zone.

1       37. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, and further including an adjacent  
2 monitor field containing data representing the presence of a display adjacent an active monitor.

1       38. A graphics display system comprising:  
2           a plurality of displays;  
3           a pointing device;  
4           a position monitor; and  
5           a remapper responsive to output from said position monitor, and operative to  
6               automatically remap the pointing device from one of the displays to another one  
7               of the displays.

1       39. A graphics display system comprising:  
2           a plurality of displays;  
3           a pointing device; and  
4           means for automatically remapping the pointing device from one of the displays to  
5               another one of the displays.

1       40. A method for mapping a pointing device to multiple displays, said method  
2 comprising:  
3           mapping the pointing device to a first display; and  
4           automatically remapping the pointing device to a second display.

1       41. The method of claim 40, wherein the step of automatically remapping the pointing  
2 device to the second display includes:

3           receiving a predefined input via the pointing device indicative of a user's desire to use  
4           the second display; and  
5           remapping the pointing device to the second display responsive to receipt of the  
6           predefined input.

1       42. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure comprising:  
2           a first field containing data indicative of a particular display; and  
3           a second field containing data indicative of said particular display's position relative  
4           to a second display.

1       43. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 42, wherein: said second field  
2       contains perimeter coordinates associated with a display area of said particular display.

1       44. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 42, wherein said second field  
2       contains data indicative of the position of a boundary between said particular display and said  
3       second display.

1       45. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 44, wherein said data structure  
2       further comprises a third field containing data indicative of said second display.